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PROJECT DIRECTOR

8 March 1956

Cover Officer *JWR*

Attached, TS - 143237

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1. Jim's proposal appears very sound. Would suggest only one change, to which JAC concurs, namely: there is no real need for conducting actual penetration flights over hostile territory (see paragraph 4 of attached). Upper atmosphere research over [redacted] and other friendly areas would supply valuable data from the AWS point of view. Moreover, the prime purpose of this exercise would be to have unclassified but valuable scientific data which could be released to other agencies (governmental and private) to satisfy their curiosity and lend credence to the alleged mission; data procured through overflight of hostile areas could not be so freely released.

2. One additional minor point: if the recording instruments which AWS would wish to install were easily removable, the aircraft assigned the weather recon task need not be a total loss to our operational effort. It may be fairly simple to remove the weather instrumentation and insert one or the other of our reconnaissance systems.

PCS/DCI:JWR/jjs

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